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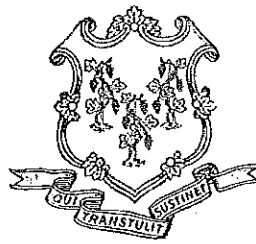
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Committee on Children

February 5th, 2015

LOB 2B

11:30 AM

In **SUPPORT** of Proposed Senate Bill 303
An Act Concerning Children Exposed to Family Violence

Chairwoman Bartolomeo, Chairwoman Urban, and distinguished members of the Committee on Children, thank you for hearing SB 303. I am here to testify in **support** of **Proposed Senate Bill 303, *An Act Concerning Children Exposed to Family Violence***.

First, I would like to thank Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney for spearheading this important legislation. Sadly, too often we hear news reports of domestic and family violence occurring throughout the State of Connecticut.

Proposed Senate Bill 303 seeks to establish a task force, composed of many key stakeholders, chief among them: the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, health care professionals, guardians ad litem, law enforcement, and the Judicial Branch.

I believe that a task force dedicated to examining and strengthening state policy and practice that aims to bring about more effective, evidence-based models for strong prevention remedies for children and youth exposed to family violence is timely, welcome, and needed to address this growing problem in our state.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 303.